

But yet I'll bury thee : Thou'lt go, strong thief⁴, When gouty keepers of thee cannot stand :—

Nay, stay thou out for earnest.

[*Keeping some gold.*]

Enter ALCIBIABES, with Drum and Fife, in warlike manner; PHRYNIA and TIMANDRA.

ALCIB.

What art thou

there ?

Speak,

TIM. A beast, as thou art. The canker gnaw thy

heart, For showing me again the eyes of man !

¹ To the APRIL day again.] That is, *to the redding day*, called by the poet, satirically, *April day, or fool's day*.

JOHNSON.

The *April day* does not relate to *the widow*, but to the other *diseased female*, who is represented as the *outcast of an hospital*. She it is whom gold *embalms and spices* to the *April day again* ; i. e. gold restores her to all *thsfreshness and sweetness* of youth. Such is the power of gold, that it will—

«•---make black, white; foul, fair;

^{re} Wrong, right;" &c.

A quotation or two may perhaps support this interpretation. So, in Sidney's *Arcadia*, p. 263, edit. 1633 : " Do you see how the spring time is full of flowers, decking itself with them, and not aspiring to the fruits of autumn ? What lesson is that unto you, but that in the *April of your age* you should be like *April*."

Again, in Stephens's *Apology for Herodotus*, 1607 : " He is a young man, and in the *April of his age*." Peacham's *Compleat Gentleman*, chap. iii. calls *youth* " the *April* of man's life." Shakespeare's Sonnet entitled *Love's Cruelty*, has the same thought: " Thou art thy mother's glass, and she in thee " Calls back the lovely *April* of her prime." Daniel's 31st Sonnet has, " — the *April* of my years." Master Fenton " smells *April* and May." TOLLET.

^a Do thy right nature.] Lie in the earth where nature laid thee.

JOHNSON.

3 — Thou'rt quick,] Thou hast life and motion in thee.

JOHNSON.

.* — strong thief,] Thus, Chaucer, in the *Pardoner's Tale* : " Men wolden say that we were *theeves strong*:"

STEEVENS.